

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving as an input to a digital telephonic device one or more digits of a candidate communication number;

searching a database located in the telephonic device for a communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number;

locating within the database a communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number; and

transmitting a located communication number to ~~a presenting location~~ an output device prior to receiving an entire candidate communication number.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication number comprises a telephone number.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the database contains one or more telephone numbers previously dialed from ~~a telephone~~ the telephonic device.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the database contains one or more telephone numbers of one or more devices previously attempting to establish a connection with ~~a telephone~~ the telephonic device.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~presenting location~~ output device comprises the telephone.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~presenting location~~ output device comprises a data display location of the electronic system.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the database is located in a computer network.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein searching the database for the communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number comprises searching the database after receiving each digit following a group of the one or more digits of the candidate communication number.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting the located communication number to the ~~presenting location~~ output device prior to receiving the entire candidate communication number comprises:

transmitting one or more located communication numbers corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number from the database to the

~~presenting location~~ output device prior to receiving the entire candidate communication number; and

reducing the one or more located communication numbers, as the one or more located communication numbers fail to contain each subsequently received digit of the candidate communication number.

12. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving from a digit inputter of a telephone device a partial telephone number having one or more digits corresponding to a candidate communication number;

searching a database located in the telephone device for a telephone number corresponding to the partial telephone number;

locating in the database one or more telephone numbers corresponding to the partial telephone number; and

returning to a display screen of the telephone device one or more located telephone numbers, prior to receiving an entire candidate telephone number.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the digit inputter comprises a telephone keypad.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the digit inputter comprises a voice-activated dialing mechanism.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the database contains one or more telephone numbers previously dialed from the telephone device.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the database contains one or more telephone numbers of one or more incoming telephone calls to the telephone device.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
receiving a selection indication to select a located telephone number appearing on the display screen of the telephone device; and
dialing, as a result of receiving the selection indication, a selected located telephone number appearing on the display screen of the telephone device.

20. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture comprising:
a machine-accessible medium including thereon sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause an electronic system to:
receive as an electronic input one or more digits of a candidate communication number;
search a database located in a telephone device for a communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number;

locate within the database a communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number; and

transmit a located communication number to ~~a presenting location~~ an electronic output device prior to receiving an entire candidate communication number.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to receive one or more digits of the candidate communication number comprise sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to receive the one or more digits of a candidate telephone number.

22. (Currently Amended) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to search the database for the communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number comprise sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to search for the corresponding communication number within a database containing one or more telephone numbers previously dialed from a telephone the telephone device ~~for the communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number.~~

23. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 21, wherein the sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to search the database for the communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate

communication number comprise sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to search a database containing one or more telephone numbers of one or more devices previously attempting to establish a connection with a telephone for the communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Canceled)

26. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to transmit the located communication number to the presenting location prior to receiving the entire candidate communication number comprise sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to transmit the located communication number to a telephone prior to receiving the entire candidate communication number.

27. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 20, wherein the sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to transmit the located communication number to the presenting location prior to receiving the entire candidate communication number comprise sequences of instructions that, when executed, cause the electronic system to:

transmit one or more located communication numbers corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number from the database to the ~~presenting location~~ electronic output device prior to receiving the entire candidate communication number; and

reduce the one or more located communication numbers, as the one or more located communication numbers fail to contain each subsequently received digit of the candidate communication number.

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a communication number digits receiver to receive one or more digits of a candidate communication number as an input to an telephone device;

a communication number searcher coupled with the communication number digits receiver to search a database located in the telephone device for a communication number corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number; and

a communication number transmitter coupled with the communication number searcher to transmit to a ~~presenting location~~ an electronic output device one or more located communication numbers corresponding to the one or more digits of the candidate communication number prior to receiving an entire candidate communication number.

29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the communication number comprises a telephone number.

30. (Canceled)